

Author response to editor report

Dear editor,

below we address the points you raised.

**In page 3 line 24: The sentence starting with "In the same paragraph..." is a new point and deserves a new paragraph. It would also be helpful to provide a quote as before, so that the reader can link your comment to what was said before.**

Response: Agreed, we have made a new paragraph here as suggested.

Changed from: " In the same paragraph the authors go on to suggest that DGVM modellers need to apply assembly theory to better understand and model relationships between traits and the environment."

To: "In the same paragraph the authors go on to suggest that DGVM modellers need to apply assembly theory to better understand and model relationships between traits and the environment when they state `` Such relationships between environmental conditions and traits can potentially be understood via ecological assembly theory"."

**In page 4 line 9: Please locate this statement (approximately) in Verheijen et al. (Introduction, Discussion?)**

Response: Sentence changed to "In the discussion, JeDi-DGVM (Pavlick et al., 2013) is further criticised because its traits are "not-measurable"."

**Page 4 line 15: Rephrase to "This statement serves as an invitation to the reader to ignore the aDGVM2. However, this is a curious ...". I don't think that this necessarily is a \_dismissive\_ statement, because it is actually factually correct. It certainly implies (unjustly) that one should disregard aDGVM2, therefore your remaining comment on the statement is appropriate.**

Response: We do not necessarily agree, a statement can be dismissive while also being true, but we will rephrase as suggested.

Changed to: "This statement serves as invitation to the reader to ignore the aDGVM2."

**Since DGVM already includes "model", there is not need to say DGVM model, which repeatedly occurs in the text.**

Response: Yes it's a bit funny like that. We have edited where appropriate.

- Page 4, line 19
- Page 4, line 20
- Page 5, line 8
- Page 5, line 17
- Page 5, line 29
- Page 7, line 29
- Page 8, line 3
- Page 8, line 10